THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

GOOD WORDS OF GREAT MEN.

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Sanitary Commission is doing a work of great humanity, and of direct practical value to the nation in this time of its trial. It is entitled to the gratitude and the confidence of the people, and I trust it will be generously supported. There is no agency through which voluntary offerings of patriotism can be more effectively made.

CHIEF JUSTICE SALMON P. CHASE.

What age before this age, and what country besides our country, ever witnessed such an organization as that of the Sanitary Commission? What needs have been supplied; what wants relieved; what wounds healed; what evils averted, by the activity, wisdom, and unflagging zeal of this admirable organization, fostered and sustained by the people, and recognized and aided by the Government.

THE LAST MARCH.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Peace and rest for him are won;
Let his requiem be sung!
Let his dirge be sadly rung!
Hearts so tenderly that clung,
Now with anguish sore are wrung.

Bear him on! bear him on!
In the greatness of his fame,
In the fullness of the same;
Handing down an honored name,
Mighty march of mighty frame,
Dead alike to praise or blame.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Let each sorrowing State receive him;
To their care his loved ones leave him;
Soon the grave for aye shall cleave him
From our sight, but hearts shall wreathe him
With the bays of loyal love.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Martial music sadly stealing,
Muffled bells with plaintive pealing,
Sobs the people's heart revealing,
'Neath the shock stout men are reeling,
Women with clasped hands are kneeling,
Prayers with earnest vows they're sealing,
With a stronger, deeper feeling,
From henceforth to serve the right.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Listen to the measured tread
Of the horses, slowly led,
As they bear our Nation's Head
On to final earthly bed.
Moon and stars from sight have fled,
Darkness takes the watch instead,
Hanging sable pall o'erhead,
Curtaining the noble dead.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Distant earth in distant West,
Lightly press your martyred guest!
Martyr for the truth confest,
Principles his life attest;
And on that whole life imprest,
With true courage, force, and zest,
Grief is struggling in our breast,
Proud we are, yet sore distrest
Of his form to be possest,
As they guard him to his rest.
Christ receive him 'mid the blest!
Bear him on! bear him on!

DELTA.

Philadelphia, April 22, 1865.

THE WORK OF A GREAT PEOPLE.

(*Continued from Bulletin No.* 31.)

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ENTERPRISE.

While the men of the Northern and Southern States were preparing for war during the spring of 1861, the women of the North perceived already that in the great struggle which was then commencing there would be also something for them to do. They undertook at first to furnish to the medical corps of the army a supply of lint and bandages. Everywhere in the churches, in the schools, in the saloons of the rich, women and girls of every age and rank met together to prepare lint and bandages out of the linen which they bought. But they soon perceived that their activity and zeal were required in a more extensive field. They then organized the "Women's Central Association of Relief" of New York, and other societies were formed in different cities; and these courageous women resolved to consult men, who by their experience and position could open a suitable field for exertions. A pastor of New York, well known for the interest which he has taken in all works of charity and philanthropy, the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Bellows, gave them the following practical advice. "You want inquiry from the only correct sources. You must find out first what the Government *will* do, and *can* do, and then help it by working *with it*, and doing what it cannot. You must have advice derived from the Government."

This advice was immediately followed. The Rev. Dr. Bellows and three of the most eminent physicians of New York, Messrs. Van Buren, Harris and Harsen were authorized to go to Washington in order to consult the Secretary of War.

An exposé of their mission was presented by the delegates to the Secretary of War the 18th of May, 1861. Such was the commencement of the society now known under the name of the "Sanitary Commission of the United States," a society whose operations embrace a field almost as extensive as the whole of Europe, and whose voluntary contributions for the relief of the suffering soldiers have amounted in less than three years to the enormous sum of fifty millions of francs.

DIFFICULTIES.

It is certainly impossible for any person to have conducted himself towards a government with more moderation and respect than was done by the delegates of these patriotic societies of New York; nevertheless the authorities were not at first favorable to them. That regularity (or routine) which is so necessary in government affairs, is naturally opposed to innovations. We ought not then to be surprised that President Lincoln should call the proposed Commission a "fifth wheel in the military coach." The chiefs of the war department, and particularly those of the medical bureau, at first received the offers of service from the delegates in a manner which was anything but encouraging. But the women of the United States remained immovable in their resolution, and here again was verified the saying, "what woman wills, Heaven wills." Four days after the presentation of the expose by the delegates, Dr. R. C. Wood, surgeon in chief, *pro tem.*, of the armies of the United States, expressed the following opinion in a communication addressed to the Secretary of War.

"The Medical Bureau would, in my judgment, derive important and useful aid from the counsels and well directed efforts of an intelligent and scientific Commission, to be styled 'A Commission of Inquiry and Advice in respect of the Sanitary Interests of the United States Forces,' and acting in co-operation with the Bureau in elaborating and applying such facts as might be elicited from the experience and more extended observation of those connected with armies with reference to the diet and hygiene of troops and the organization of military hospitals."

Profiting by the encouragement which was thus given them, the four delegates did not lose a moment, and the very next morning they sent to the Secretary of War the following:

"The Medical Bureau of the United States Army having asked for the appointment of a Sanitary Commission in aid of its own overtasked energies, the committee of the New York delegation to the Government on Sanitary Affairs, beg leave, at the request of the Medical Bureau, and as explanatory of its wishes, to state what precise powers are sought by the proposed Commission and what specific objects are aimed at."

These proposals made to the Government seemed to show that the contemplated Sanitary Commission might after all be a harmless association, having none other than loyal and laudable intentions; yet the powers which its founders demanded, as will

be seen hereafter, were very extensive. But the delegates from New York proved themselves equal to the greatness of their mission by avoiding everything that could have the appearance of unreasonable importunity, and by submitting themselves in all things to the military and medical authorities. They recognized moreover, at the very outset, not merely the importance but the absolute necessity of administrative etiquette and routine in all that related to the army.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION IS ORGANIZED.

The Secretary of War at length gave his official approbation to the proposed Commission on the 9th of June, 1861, but with little sympathy for the enterprise, and with no confidence in its success. On the 13th of June the Commission obtained the official sanction of the President in this concise form: "I approve the above, A. LINCOLN," subjoined to the order of the Secretary of War. The last sentence of that order is remarkable.

"The Commission will exist until the Secretary of War shall otherwise direct, unless sooner dissolved by its own action."

This was as much as to say that he had no faith in its permanence.

The inquiries made by the four delegates since their arrival in Washington had not revealed a very encouraging state of affairs. The American army, at the voice of the President calling for 75,000 volunteers, had been suddenly raised from 20,000 men to 80,000, and it could not reasonably be expected that the military administration, organized on the basis of the first number, could prove itself all at once equal to the second. The North American Review for January, 1864, gives the following picture of the state of affairs at Washington at the period referred to.

"For the first year of the war there was not commercial industry enough in the country to supply the actual wants of the army. Clothing could not be manufactured fast enough to meet the rapidly recruited ranks. Cloths were imported by the Government as a protection against the enormous rates which holders of suitable stuffs were selfishly exacting. Besides, the ideas of the government bureaus did not and could not expand as fast as the unprecedented wants of the army did. Timidity and caution tied up even the boldest hands. The suffering which existed in the rank and file from want of blankets, stockings, overcoats and tents was very great. The regimental hospitals, under new and inexperienced surgeons, without acquaintance with bureau routine, were often desperately deficient both in what they might have had, if at the proper time they had known how to ask for it, and what no skill in asking at that time could secure. The general hospitals were just beginning to be established. Inconvenient and wholly unsuitable buidings were the only ones within reach, and the Government was not then aroused to the necessity of creating proper ones. The hospital fund, the usual adequate resource of the surgeon for all extra comforts and delicacies, now extensively, nay universally, in operation, could not at once be inaugurated, even by experts, and was utterly beyond the management of novices. It afforded no dependence for many months, and was of little use for the first year of the war."

It was at that moment of perplexity and need that this voluntary association, seeking to form itself into a Sanitary Commission, offered its services to the Government.

The delegates and their constituents, far from being alarmed at the difficulties which presented themselves to their view, felt only the more deeply the necessity of their enterprise; and having obtained from the Government all that they had asked—the right to exist, to labor and to counsel—they immediately set themselves to work in order to provide the necessary succor for the suffering soldiers.

THE COMMISSION BEGINS ITS WORK.

There had been already several societies organized for the purpose of assisting the soldiers, but they were all more or less deficient from not having an established system of operations. In the different States, districts and even towns, local committees had been formed, who received gifts in money or in kind for the benefit of the volunteers of their particular locality; but these committees were not long in discovering the difficulties necessary to be encountered when provision had to be made for soldiers who were distant hundreds of leagues, and were liable at any time to be sent from one end of a State to the other, that is to say to a distance equal to the length of France, without the public at large having any knowledge of their movements. The Sanitary Commission had at first some difficulty in making these local

associations understand that the interest of the troops, for whose advantage they had been formed, would be better promoted by one great national organization, than by mere municipal committees or local societies. One by one, however, they joined themselves to the Commission, and in a short time the women of the whole North had organized themselves into auxiliary societies in all the towns and villages, and were laboring faithfully and energetically for the benefit of the Commission. We shall be able to form some idea of the importance which this association has acquired, when we are informed that at the present time it comprises within its organization more than 32,000 of these auxiliary societies.

In order to supply the continually increasing wants of the army, and to provide for the proper distribution of the articles sent in abundance from all parts of the loyal States, the members of the Commission soon found that their number was insufficient, and they at once resolved to correct the deficiency by receiving new members into their association. Their standing committee was increased to twenty-one members, comprising several of the most distinguished physicians and philanthropists in the United States. Among these we cannot omit to mention Mr. Federick Law Olmstead, whose works on the agricultural and other resources of the Southern States have made his name celebrated in the learned world. He occupied a high position as municipal engineer of the city of New York, but at the first call of the Sanitary Commission, which already had all his sympathies, he resigned his highly advantageous and honorable position in order to accept the post of general secretary of the association under the direction of the committee.

Afterwards, associated members were added to the central committee. These were persons chosen on account of their position, and their willingness to use their influence for the good of the cause, without any other recompense than the consciousness of having performed their duty. The business of these members is to make known to those around them and to the public at large the wants as well as the objects of the Commission, and to induce those who desire to do anything for the soldiers, to put themselves in communication with the association. Thousands of printed circulars have been distributed in all directions, setting forth the wants of the army, and especially of the military hospitals. A proclamation has been sent to all the post-masters of the North, (*i. e.* of the loyal States), with the request that it may be circulated as much as possible, inviting the inhabitants, and particularly the women, to form themselves into auxiliary societies. The editors of the newspapers and other journals, (and in the United States there are 4,052 journals and reviews with an annual circulation of 927,951,548 copies*), have been invited to discuss the subject in their columns. The presidents and directors of the life insurance companies have been made to realize that they have an especial interest in the welfare and health of the soldiers. In short, an appeal has been made to all classes of society who were in any way interested in the movement, or who felt that it was their duty to labor for the soldiers while these were fighting for their country.

THE SUBJECT OF TRANSPORTS.

The women having at length found a practical method of manifesting their patriotism, and the sympathy which they felt for the hardships of the soldiers, and knowing also what things were immediately necessary to the army, set themselves to work with a zeal and energy rarely exhibited by men. But new difficulties rose before the Commission at every step. The private houses, stores, schools and even the churches were encumbered with bales and packages of clothing and other articles destined for the sick and wounded, awaiting the orders of the quartermaster general. The subject of transportation in a country so extensive as the United States, presents peculiar difficulties, not only on account of the proportionally small number of railroads and canals,† &c., but also on account of the rivalry existing at the commencement of the war between the different States. The theory of the individual sovereignty of the States, and a general desire to maintain the integrity and autonomy‡ of each, presented a serious obstacle to the efforts of the Commission. Nevertheless, this jealousy of State towards State, which the National Government had been unable to control,

* See "The United States of America," by John Bigelow, United States Consul at Paris.—Paris, 1863.

† The 60,000 kilometres of railroads and the 6,000 kilometres of canals possessed by the United States, are indeed a small affair compared with the extent of the country. [A *kilometre* is a little more than three-fifths of a mile.]

‡ Or self-government.

was at length overcome by the Sanitary Commission, inspired and directed by the spirit of philanthropy. It was resolved to treat the country, not as a confederacy of sovereign states, but as an indivisible whole; to efface, so to speak, the ancient lines of separation, and to form new sections, of which the navigable waters and lines of railroad constituted the different bases. General depots were established in the large cities in order to receive contributions of every kind from the neighboring towns and villages. Thus one hundred and twenty towns and villages became auxiliaries to the section of which Cleveland, in Ohio, formed the central depot; twelve hundred and thirty-six became auxiliary to New York, &c. The standing committee at Washington was from that time able to regulate and direct the beneficence of the whole country towards the points of greatest need; at the same time they were delivered from, perhaps, the most onerous part of their former labors, having now to correspond only with the general depots.—*L' Œuvre d'un Grand Peuple, par J. N. P., Paris*, 1864.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT OF DR. ALEXANDER McDONLAD.

ARMIES OPPERATING BEFORE RICHMOND,
CITY POINT, *March* 31, 1865.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,

General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—Since the date of my last report these armies have been comparatively quiet, but until within a few days no movement of the entire armies has been made. Spite of all this seeming quiet a great amount of labor has been performed, and many changes in location of camps made, involving the erection of new quarters, re-arrangement of ground and removal of stores, in some cases several times during the winter; consequently our agents have been kept busy most of the time till the coming of warm weather in protecting themselves and others against the rigors of a Virginia winter, and supplying the wants of the army as completely as means for so doing were at hand.

Our stations at the right, Army of the James, remain in nearly the same location as at date of my last report. Many improvements have been made, and the quarters are very comfortable. One station with each, 24th and 25th Corps, and their base at Deep Bottom, are the points from which the Army of the James is supplied. This department includes all the territory from Point of Rocks to Four Mile Run, and the number of agents is sufficient to meet all present demands. It is under the charge of Mr. Geo. A. Williams, assisted by two agents in each corps and one at Deep Bottom. Another agent will be sent to work among the colored troops of the 25th Corps, as requested by Gen. Ord, so soon as the proper person can be found to undertake this work. These troops are employing their spare time in learning to read, and evince a great desire to improve as rapidly as possible. By the aid of books furnished by the Commission the agents and chaplains have succeeded in establishing a foundation for future education, and increased the desire for information among nearly all the troops.

Our stations with the army of the Potomac are located along the line of railroad to Humphrey's station. The position of these corps has been changed two or three times since January 1, and the work of building on one side would hardly be completed before a move would be ordered, and a new location chosen. This has been specially the case with the 5th Corps. Each station in both armies is furnished with two four horse teams and drivers, two agents, two loads of supplies, and a saddle horse for the agent in charge.

The Relief Corps in the Army of the Potomac is in charge of Mr. J. W. Johnson, and is in a most efficient condition. Stations in this army draw supplies directly from City Point, those in the Army of the James from Deep Bottom, to which place stores are sent from City Point by water.

The army of the James having occupied all the lines from Point of Rocks to Four Mile Run, including the 24th, 25th, and part of the 8th Corps, has demanded and received a due share of attention from the Commission. Including, as it has, all the colored troops in these armies, many of whom have previously been slaves, but now stand out as freemen, battling for the country, yet as children in their dependence on others for necessaries or comforts; many of them heedless regarding the future, looking only to present need, and requiring special instruction and special care, has created a want for the means of instructing men never previously so fully developed; has added to our list of supplies, books, slates, pencils and similar stores of small cost but great benefit, and demanded with the means for education competent instructors, which we

have endeavored to furnish so far as lay in our power. Spelling books and slates have been judiciously distributed, and our agents have exerted themselves to have chaplains and others aid in teaching their uses to the men, so that now it is no uncommon scene to find two or three colored soldiers gathered in some quiet place aiding each other in their studies. These troops have seemed to suffer from the extreme cold weather of the past winter much more than whites, and we have been compelled to issue for their use comparatively large quantities of woolen clothing, socks, mittens, &c.

While the agents of the 25th Corps have been thus engaged with colored troops, those of the 24th and 8th have been employed in ministering to the necessities of their men, and have done all they could to relieve or prevent suffering in any of its various forms.

The table of distribution will show that all in this departmnet have received a due share of attention, and that our agents have not been unmindful of their duty.

From this army was sent Jan. 4 an expedition which succeeded in capturing Fort Fisher. Two of our agents, Messrs. Foster and Adams, with a good supply of stores, accompanied it, and Mr. Foster has followed the troops to Wilmington. The service rendered at these points has proved of great benefit to men wounded in the attack on Fort Fisher, and also to men released from rebel prisons and sent to Wilmington, where many of them remain till sufficiently recuperated to resume their journey.

At both places our agents received the thanks and co-operation of government officers, and good evidence that their work was appreciated by the commanding generals and the troops. Messrs. Foster and Adams deserve special credit for their industry and persevering efforts during this campaign.

January 25 Mr. Foster arrived from Fort Fisher, and was supplied with a fresh lot of stores, with which he returned. He reports that the Sanitary Commission was the only benevolent association represented during the attack.

At Wilmington a quantity of liquors were turned over to the Commission to be used for men in hospital, and as the supply of milk was exhausted, our agent purchased a lot, and furnished milk-punch to the hospitals by directions of the surgeons.

The Wilmington station has since been transferred to the department of North Carolina, and future reports will doubtless be forwarded by the agent in charge at Newbern.

With the Army of the Potomac we have six agents in charge of Mr. J. W. Johnson. Their issues have been made mainly to men in the regiments, with a limited distribution to hospitals. They include the 2d, 5th, 6th, 9th and Cavalry Corps, Engineer and Artillery Brigade. Picket firing, attacks on the line, hard duty, raids and advances have kept the hospitals in this department filled with wounded and sick, making the duties of our agents constant and at times arduous.

The sanitary condition of this army during the past three months has equalled, if not surpassed, that of any previous season. Camps have been well chosen, regularly laid out, well policed, and the morale of the men has generally been excellent. Rations are well cooked, quarters, arms and equipments kept clean, daily drills and amusements of various kinds have given a pleasant and healthy stimulus to the men, and enabled them better to endure the duties and fatigues of service.

Particular attention has been paid to men sick in quarters, who may be kept from hospitals and returned to duty. The call for small stores had been great previous to the advent of paymasters. "Uncle John," as he is familiarly called by the men, (John Vasser), reports having distributed from Feb. 21 to 25, 1,000 Soldier's Friend, 2,120 sheets of paper, 1,000 envelopes, 42 combs, 50 pens, 50 handkerchiefs, 25 needles, ¼ lb. of thread, 30 papers of tobacco, 2,090 newspapers, and 9 pairs of mittens. These are personal distributions. Besides these corn starch, farina, milk, crackers, &c., &c., are furnished to the sick, who are thereby enabled, with a few days of rest, to resume their duties.

Feb. 1 and 2 the work of clearing hospitals of 2d, 5th and 6th Corps commenced, and the morning of the 3d found these troops ready for a move. Feb. 4, marching orders were issued, and the troops moved on the 5th, 2d Corps skirmishing all the afternoon. A fight on the 6th was succeeded by an intensely cold night, with hail and rain, during which the wounded suffered much from exposure. Punch, crackers, &c., were at hand, also Jamaica ginger and blankets. Our work continued through the night, and

till noon of the 7th. Each ambulance was provided with Jamaica ginger instead of whisky for a stimulant. Over 1,000 wounded were sent from Patrick station, to whom 100 gallons milk punch, 1 gross Jamaica ginger, 2 bbls. crackers and a quantity of blankets were furnished as they lay on the platform waiting for transportation to the hospitals.

The recent battles at Hatcher's and Gravelly Run have increased our labors in all departments. The wounded cavalrymen especially demand a large issue of clothing, as they were prisoners in rebel hands some twenty-four hours, during which time they were robbed of almost everything, even to shoes, stockings and blankets. The 2d, 5th, 9th, 24th and Cavalry Corps hospitals have all had large accessions of wounded.

Schools, libraries, reading, writing and smoking rooms have been established in some of the hospitals, and are meeting with success. Schools are taught by agents after regular duties of the day have been performed, and are well attended. Libraries are established in connection with the schools, from which books are loaned to men who are unable to leave the wards; reading, writing and smoking rooms are for those who are convalescing. These accommodations are a source of much benefit, well arranged for their several purposes, and kept in good order by the application of a proper code of regulations conspicuously posted in each tent.

Washing of clothing was commenced in some of the hospitals and resulted in a great saving to the Commission: also in the establishment of laundries by hospitals, which have for the present superceded the necessity for our doing such work, and it has consequently been temporarily abandoned, yet can easily be resumed if the present arrangement of hospital laundries should not work better than it now promises.

Issues of clothing by quartermasters to men in hospitals reach only those cases where the applicant will probably be compelled to remain several weeks, as officers are not disposed to become responsible for stock to be kept on hand, and will therefore only draw for the amount ordered; consequently men who will go to general hospitals, or be returned to their regiments in a short time, must remain without clothing or be furnished by the Commission.

Refugees, in addition to their lodgings, are furnished with food, but the number of this class has been gradually diminishing, much to our satisfaction, as most of them arrive in an almost destitute condition, and we cannot relieve them without the risk of so depleting our stock as to detract from the proper application at times of necessity.

Stations at Fort Monroe and Portsmouth are continued; their supplies are drawn from the storehouse at Norfolk. This branch is in charge of Mr. H. P. Sherman, and the work of individual relief is being ably conducted; adjacent hospitals also are supplied from the Norfolk store. Disabled men from the front are received and taken care of by Mr. Alcooke, Superintendent of the Soldier's Lodge, at Portsmouth. His reports show that since Jan. 1, 1865, he has given 4,320 meals and 1,422 lodgings, besides supplying necessary clothing and comforts to a very large number of men on their way to or from their regiments. His work has found favor with all who know him, and the facilities afforded by government officers at this point are such as can be expected only from the result of patient and persevering application to duty.

Until the arrival of army paymasters, (Feb. 25), we were continually receiving applications for stationery, buttons, needles, pins, thread, yarn, combs, soap, clothing, and especially tobacco, articles which men must have, but could obtain only by purchase or by application to the Sanitary, and having no money, not having been paid in several months, the Sanitary was their only and last resource. We have endeavored to meet these demands whenever made, well knowing that there was no other source of supply.

We always want clothing, vegetables, stationery, sewing material, dried fruit, sugar, tea, milk, stimulants, tobacco, rags and bandages; these are the standards; hospital food, flavoring extracts, slippers, &c., &c., are needed for special use.

All supplies should be carefully and securely packed; much loss arises from the want of a little care in the preparation of goods for shipment, and in legible marking. We have often received packages bearing a conspicuous mark of their contents, but a very diminutive and obscure address; reverse this order and the arrangement would be complete.

A little work called "*The Soldier's Friend*," has been largely distributed in these armies, is gladly received, read and preserved. About forty thousand copies

have been distributed by our agents, and the work is well appreciated by men and officers. Mr. Sperry suggests the addition of a few simple rules for the preservation of health, to include some instructions regarding the proper preparation and cooking of soldiers' rations.

This little book will be found carefully preserved in the pockets of a great majority of the soldiers who have received a copy. It contains just the information needed by every soldier, so arranged and condensed as to be of practical value to him. Give us more of them.

During the recent exchange of prisoners it has been our good fortune to minister to some of the wants of those who have suffered so much and so long for the cause. The distribution of comforts to a part of these men, although in our regular line of business, was deemed a gratifying though sad opportunity for doing good; and the spirit of thankfulness with which any little attention was received, more than repaid the exertions necessary for such deeds. We have supplied all that could be reached, both at Varina and Wilmington, with all we had that was needed, and our only regret has been that the supply was so limited.

Refugees, men, women and children have been arriving almost daily, many of them in a nearly destitute condition. Women, whose husbands have succeeded in reaching some free city, come through our lines, often traveling miles on foot, "flanking the pickets," and under the flag against which their nearest male relatives have been fighting, seeking protection for themselves and children.

The number of letters forwarded for soldiers since Jan. 1, has been 34,794, of newspapers 1,312.

A large number of letters are written at the several writing rooms and on board our boats, where the conveniences are always at hand, and open at all hours of each day for such as desire to make use of them.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
March 30, 1865.

DOCTOR:—I deem it my duty to report to you as the General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission, the workings of this institution in this Department, particularly with that portion of the field occupied by Major-General Terry's command.

The last expedition to Fort Fisher was fitted out in a hurry, and but a few medical stores prepared for the army. My assignment to the command as medical director, was on the night before its sailing from Bermuda Hundred, and no adequate arrangements could be made to supply the medical department of the expedition. Indeed I did not then know where we were going. I was informed, however, that "all things would be supplied from Army Headquarters." With this assurance I tried to rest satisfied. On landing at Fort Fisher I found that little or no arrangements had been made to supply the medical department with medicines, dressings or stores, and that we were even without cooking utensils or nourishment for sick and wounded, except such as could be borrowed from regiments composing the command. You may well judge my feelings at the prospect before us. Almost without food and stimulants, and entirely destitute of transportation, upon a bleak shore, in front of a strongly intrenched and confident enemy, with the certainty of a fight, and the prospect of a large number of wounded, I looked about me for help. At this juncture of affairs Mr. F. W. Foster, Agent of the Sanitary Commission, came to my relief. His goods were on shipboard, but he immediately set about getting them off, and through his exertions, and by his supplies we were able to make our sick and wounded comparatively comfortable. Beside the furnishing of supplies, Mr. Foster and his assistant, F. B. Adams, personally distributed food and nourishment to the wounded, acting as nurses, and even dressing wounds. For such efficiency and devotion and timely aid I desire to express to them, and through you to the Sanitary Commission, my most heartfelt thanks. Since the capture of Fort Fisher Mr. Foster has followed the fortunes of this command. At this place, (Wilmington), he, as well as every one with a heart and means, has found abundant for hands and head to do. The Sanitary Commission contributing, under the charge of Mr. F., largely to the care and safety of the returned prisoners.

I have not called your attention to the above case, or facts, as the first instance of relief or occasion I have had to acknowledge the importance and timely aid of this Commission. During a service of four years I have had many opportunities to witness the great good of this Commission under such officers as Mr. Foster.

Mr. F. is now at Wilmington, and proceeding in all respects as he began in January, systematically to feed the sick of this city.

At present we have here about 3,000 of the returned prisoners, most of them too sick to be transported North. The average number of deaths among these people has been about twenty per day. Three of my best medical officers have sickened and died of fever contracted in the discharge of their duties among these sick. Several others are sick, and will probably die. We are endeavoring to remove the sick to hospitals out of town, and by thorough police regulations, place the city in a more healthy condition. To do this we require at least 500 barrels of lime and other disenfectments. If the Sanitary Commission can furnish any part of this they will greatly oblige.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

NORMAN S. BARNES,
Surgeon U. S. Vols.,
Medical Director Major-General Terry's Command.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
Gen. Sec'ry U. S. San. Com. Washington, D. C.

AID TO PRISONERS.

SHERMAN HOSPITAL, WILMINGTON, N. C.,
April 8, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,
Agent of the Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—It gives me great pleasure to bear testimony to the very efficient manner in which yourself and associates with the means placed at your disposal, alleviated the suffering of a great number of paroled prisoners who recently came into our lines from Confederate prisons. I am certain that if your supplies had not arrived at a most opportune moment, many would have died from the want of the necessaries you so kindly furnished. To your energy and faithfulness much is due. I am sure, sir, that all who witnessed your exertions, in caring for the sick and wounded, gave you much deserved credit.

Allow me to thank you for what was done for the men under my charge. You clothed them; you fed them; and I do not doubt but that for your personal attention, many who are living would have died.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. DAY, 117th N. Y.,
Surgeon in charge Hospital,

NEWBERN AND WILMINGTON.

FROM DR. J. M. PAGE.

NEWBERN, N. C., *April* 23, 1865.

DR. C. R. AGNEW,

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—Your favor of the 17th is just received. I sent the *Uncas* to Wilmington with twenty-five barrels of lime and seventy-five barrels of chloride of lime. Those barrels of lime and chloride of lime I retained here have been of infinite value to us. The desire to avoid pestilence here the coming season is intense, and the lime and chloride which the Commission has just sent us have inspired the first ray of confidence for the authorities and citizens and service for any chance of immunity from the plague this summer. I have given it and applied it in the proper quarters, which my recent connection with the Board of Health enabled me to do with judicious discrimination. I sent Mr. Bowman to Wilmington, and he has just returned with his report. Dr. Hand, Medical Director of this department, just from Wilmington, reports a great improvement in the condition of things there, with regard to sanitary and to military police. * * *

We have now nearly three thousand occupied beds in our general hospital here, and are constantly sending off loads of the convalescents to make room for the new installments from Sherman's army. In the exigencies of the transportation of such numbers some most happy opportunities have occurred for the timely relief of the Sanitary Commission, and these opportunities have been fully occupied and appreciated, thanks to the abundant and timely supplies forwarded to this department. My brother has already established a Sanitary depot at Raleigh, and I yesterday sent him a car-load of stores—nine to eleven tons weight—with Mr. Hoblit to assist in their disbursement. The depot at Kinston I have broken up, and withdrawn Mr. Perry to assist me here. Mr. Tope is conducting affairs at our depot in Goldsborough. Since the day you left Newbern, when Sherman's barefooted and brave soldiers began to make their appearance, an army—literally an army—has besieged the doors of the Commission, and no less an army has blessed, and been blessed, by the streams of relief which have poured from our doors and windows. There seems now to be such an affinity between want in the army and the great centers of supply for that want among

the friends of the army at the North, as to insure the timely transmission of the supplies through our established channels. The large installments of vegetables—over two thousand barrels—invoiced to me arrived just when a boat arrived, and a half-rationed army could obtain fresh vegetables from no other source. The sixty thousand pounds of tomatoes just now received are equally opportune, and eagerly accepted. I forwarded to the front, six thousand pounds of them by last night's train.

OUR WORK AT NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE.

BY GEO. A. BLAKE.

With this I forward you Special Relief Report from O. C. Bullard, Pension Report from Chas. W. Seaton, and Report of Soldiers' Home by W. S. Bullard; also several letters received within the past week from our agents in the field, and others occasioned by our good work, being written on both sides, all sides, and crossed; I must forward few of them unfastened. I can hardly hope to add anything to the information I have given you in my weekly letters.

Since my last report larger demands have been made upon us than ever before. The arrival of Major-General A. J. Smith's command and the fitting out of an expedition against Mobile has occasioned a severe drain on our stock, as our weekly account will show. Knowing that the larger portion of our troops would be congregated in the region of Mobile, either at Fort Gaines on Dauphin Island, or at Barrancas, I have forwarded to these posts a good supply of stores, knowing they were more needed there than here. I have sent as follows:

Memorandum of stores fowarded to Dauphin Island and Barrancas since Jan. 15, 1865.

Potatoes, bush	90	Pepper, papers	72
Pickles and kraut, gals	10,400	Ginger, papers	72
Crackers, bbls	64	Socks, pairs	320
Corn meal, bbls	20	Shoes, pairs	60
Dried fruit, bbls	10	Slippers, pairs	355
Tomatoes, lbs	656	Cotton drawers, pairs	568
Beef stock, lbs	1,475	Woolen drawers, pairs	167
Farina, lbs	595	Cotton Shirts	1,941
Corn-starch, lbs	661	Woolen shirts	357
Condensed milk, lbs	1,258	Wrappers	107
Chocolate, lbs	175	Handkerchiefs	995
Tea, lbs	17	Towels	1,310
Sugar, lbs	250	Abdominal bandages	150
Cod fish, lbs	350	Combs	500
Canned fruit, cans	98	Suspenders	20
Mustard, cans	72	Rags & bandages, bbls	7
Brandy, bots	48	Writing paper, reams	19
Whisky, bots	534	Envelopes	8,500
Foreign wine, bots	312	Pens	432
Domestic wines, bots	192	Pen-holders	144
Lime juice, bots	413	Pencils	100
Extract ginger, bots	48	Housewives	300
Catsup, bots	36	Cushions	162
Ink, bots	144	Pillows	200
Reading matter, bbls	2	Pillow-cases	180
Chloroform, lbs	2	Sheets	166
Blankets	108	Soap, lbs	30
Bed sacks	200	Eye shades	6
Musquito bars	74	Arm slings	156
Tin cups	124	Linen thread, lbs	3
Tin basins	18		

The above is an account of the stock that I have sent forward; it does not include what was delivered to forces of the Expeditionary Corps while at rest in the neighborhood of this city. As I wrote you before, every regiment of 16th Corps, Major-General Smith's, were furnished with more or less kraut or pickles on arrival in this city.

The demand for writing material has been constant, and more than equal to my supply on hand, which will account for my considerable purchases. The soldiers are all anxious to write to their friends, and having no money at their command, they are obliged to call on the Commission. I will venture to say that we have distributed more writing paper and envelopes during the past three months, *directly to the soldier*, than has been done in this city by any other organization during the war.

We are well represented at the front both in men and stores, and I intend to go forward the first of next week, or as soon as Mobile is occupied. You will hear many reports of "Mobile fallen," but up to this time our forces do not occupy Mobile.

Thus far about one thousand will cover the number of killed and wounded. Most of the wounded have been brought to this city, and we have been able to meet emergencies. Occasionally I have purchased to do so, feeling that the work of the Commission demanded it.

From New Orleans Delta, April 13.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following letter explains itself. It is another evidence of the excellent management of the Sanitary Commission agency in this Department:

NEW ORLEANS, *April* 7, 1865.

Agent of the U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—The following resolution was adopted unanimously at the meeting of the Union Ministerial Association, held in this city on the 3d inst.:

Resolved, That as ministers resident of New Orleans, and chaplains resident in this Department, feeling a deep and abiding interest in the Government of the United States, and the welfare of its soldiers, we are profoundly thankful, on behalf of both, for the aid and comfort afforded to the sick

and wounded in the army, by the United States Sanitary Commission, and from personal knowledge of the manner in which the New Orleans agency has been managed by Dr. Geo. A. Blake, we most cordially commend it to the confidence of those who love the Union and seek the good of the soldier. Respectfully yours,

E. ANDREWS,
Recording Scribe of the Association.

HOME AT NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, *Jan.* 11, 1865.

SIR:—The accompanying statement relative to the Soldiers' Home, was made at the request of Captain Browne, who was sent to inspect the Home by Gen Sherman, commanding defences of New Orleans.

He handed me a paper, of which the following is s copy, as indicating the information sought.

"The number of men on detailed service boarding at the Home, the number in transition on the morning of the 10th inst., and a condensed history of the manner in which the institution is conducted, what Government furnishes, and what is done by the Commission."

The statistics desired were given him on a separate paper. My statement may be of some interest to you, and, I think, has added somewhat to the confidence manifested by the military authorities in our work.

The Home is inspected by different officers, sent by Gen. Sherman, very frequently, so far without the first word of complaint, and with frequent commendation.

Very respectfully,
O. C. BULLARD.

F. N. KNAPP,
Superintendent Special Relief.

NEW ORLEANS, *Dec.* 10, 1864.

CAPT. BROWN, A. D. C.

SIR:—I have the honor herewith to furnish you a brief history of the "Soldiers' Home" in this city, its workings and other data that may be of value to meet the object you have in view.

The Home was established under Special Order 272, Headquarters Department of the Gulf, in October, 1863. Chaplain E. Nute, of the First Kansas Volunteers, was appointed Superintendent by Major-General Banks under that order. Mr. Nute was at the time acting as an Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, having been detailed by General Grant to the service of that Commission in organizing similar work along the Mississippi River.

The Western Commission were in a degree responsible for the management of the Home at first.

During the winter, a transfer of the patronage or care of the Home, was made to the U. S. Sanitary Commission. In February, 1864, Major-General Reynolds, of New Orleans, appointed an Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, Superintendent under the supervision of O. C. Bullard, Special Relief Agent of Department of the Gulf, since which time the Home has been conducted by the Commission on the following general principles.

The Government furnishes for the use of the Home, the building known as the Planters' Hotel, corner of Magazine and Julia streets.

It also furnishes rations and fuel based upon the morning reports, daily returned to Headquarters of Defences.

These reports give the number at the Home, under the several classes of furloughed, discharged, for duty, (or those *in transitu*, including all the men received on orders from the proper officers), paroled prisoners, detailed soldiers, *i. e.* orderlies, &c., who are regular boarders at the Home, (received only on orders from Headquarters of Defences), and civil employees, *i. e.* those employed in the Home and paid by the Commission.

The Sanitary Commission hires three adjoining buildings and lots. No. 94 Julia street is used for a baggage room and lodgings for the detailed men; No. 96 Julia street contains the office of the Special Relief Agent and Pension Agent, the rear of the building being used as lodgings for colored soldiers and the colored help, with laundry arrangements on the lower floor; buildings and lots on Magazine street adjoining the Planters' Hotel are used for storeage, wood yard, &c.

The Sanitary Commission has also provided iron bedsteads, comfortably furnished with bedding; all the necessary kitchen, table and laundry utensils; and the fixtures for heating not belonging to the building.

It furnishes the gas, a surgeon for daily attendance on the sick, the services of superintendent, matron, two female nurses, a night watchman, and from twelve to fifteen male and female employees.

The working force is necessarily considerable. The cooking, washing, scrubbing,

chamber work, preparation of fuel, &c., incident to such an establishment, (if neatly and perfectly conducted) will explain this point.

The common table is furnished to a considerable extent with vegetables, dried fruit, pickles, &c., in addition to Government rations. There is a comfortable hospital ward for all that need medical attendance, or who are too feeble to go to the common table, or sit up through the day.

Food suitable for the respective cases is served to the inmates of the hospital in the ward by the nurses in attendance.

They are kindly cared for, and such medicines and stimulants administered as the Surgeon may direct.

A few days rest, with good nursing and change of diet, often saves the lives of feeble men, who have before them the long journey to their homes.

Seven men are daily detailed from the First New Orleans Regiment, who act as guard at the Home and at the Government buildings on the opposite corner.

Respectfully submitted,

O. C. BULLARD,
Special Relief Agent,
U. S. San. Com., New Orleans.

RELIEF TO PRISONERS.

BY H. TONE.

VICKSBURG, MISS., *April* 6, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.
Secretary West. Dept., U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—I am happy to be able to report that we are making excellent progress in our work with the prisoners here. I am now issuing daily from forty to fifty barrels of potatoes to the men in camp, (numbering about 4,200), with an occasional additional issue of kraut. The men have all received new clothes, are drawing good rations, and if they could only hear from home and get plenty of tobacco they would be perfectly happy. They have been furnished with considerable quantities of paper and pens, both by private individuals and the various Commissions, but heretofore have had so little ink that much of the supply could not be used. To-day I procured material and manufactured about two gallons, which I carried to camp in pint bottles and divided so as to make it go as far as possible. To-morrow I shall prepare more, and I hope that hereafter no soldier will be prevented from writing home by want of ink.

The citizens here have done nobly. Several of them, foremost among whom were Capt. Greeley and Mr. Foster, have devoted almost their entire time to the matter, collecting funds, purchasing and distributing goods. They expended several thousand dollars for tobacco, towels, combs, shears, razors, paper and envelopes.

Here let me urge again the necessity of sending large quantities of tobacco. The number of people who use the weed, is as astonishing as the almost uncontrollable appetite they acquire for it. Men may be filthy, ragged, buttonless, and in a very miserable condition every way; and yet a "comfort bag" containing towel, soap, buttons, needle and thread and a comb, will not be half as warmly welcomed as a piece of tobacco. The few pounds that I had, (120), although cut into very small pieces, and made to go as far as possible, have brought more thanks and created a greater sensation than all the potatoes I have issued.

I have made arrangements to procure a list of all the men now here, and also, as far as possible, the names of those who died at Andersonville and Cahawba.

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication which I addressed to Gen. Morgan L. Smith, with reference to establishing a feeding station at Black River, with the endorsement thereon by Capt. Fisk, A. A. G.

He also gave me a note to Major Miller, commanding the camp, requesting him to do all in his power to assist in carrying out the object of my mission. The articles desired have been procured, and Mr. Johnston will be on the ground, ready to work, to-morrow. The remainder of the prisoners, being nearly all men who are unable to walk, will be greatly benefitted by such a station.

Two days ago the train took out a carload of rebel prisoners and brought back a load of our men. The contrast in the physical condition of the two squads of men was very striking. The rebels were fat and hearty, well clothed, carrying large rolls of blankets, and loaded down with bread and meat. Our own men were so feeble that they had to be taken from the cars to the hospital in ambulances, were ragged beyond decency, had not a blanket or a crumb of food in the squad, and some were almost in a dying condition. To-day 190 more arrived, and these were in even a worse condition. While they were at the depot we

gave them milk-punch and crackers and wine, and it was enough to make one weep to hear the fervent expressions of "thanks, thanks," coming up from throats too weak to utter more. One died while we were feeding them. Poor fellow, he had lived to endure all the sufferings the rebels could impose upon him, only to die upon the threshold of his home at last.

VICKSBURG, *April* 3, 1865.

GEN. M. L. SMITH, Commanding.

The Sanitary Commission propose, with your consent and assistance, to establish a feeding station at Black River Bridge for the benefit of prisoners in transit. We have among our stores, extract of beef for making soup, milk, cups, dippers, &c.; and we have here a man who had two months' experience in feeding the wounded at Resaca, Ga. We have also ale, spirits, tea and soft crackers for the sick.

If this proposal meets with your approval, we would respectfully ask for the following articles, to be returned when no longer needed for this purpose, or paid for by the Sanitary Commission: Two tents and one fly, or one tarpaulin, one dozen large camp kettles, half dozen wooden buckets, and two axes. Also an order for procuring from the Commissary the necessary hard bread, coffee and sugar; and four detailed men.

Respectfully, H. TONE,
Agent U. S. San. Com.

This arrangement is most heartily approved.

By command of Brig. Gen. Smith.
A. C. FISK,
A. A. G.

VICKSBURG, MISS., *April* 9, 1865.

It is now pretty well settled that not more than a hundred more prisoners will be delivered here, communication between this place and Andersonville having been effectually severed.

I do not know the exact number already delivered, but think it will not exceed 5,000, so that in shipping goods for the prisoners here, calculation need be made for no more than that number. We are issuing daily one barrel of potatoes to each hundred men, and have enough on hand to continue at the same rate for two weeks. We have also made two issues of kraut since I came here, and have remaining enough for two or three more. Of hospital stores we have, I think, plenty of everything except fruits; of these we have none. The fifteen barrels sent on the *Atlantic* would be of great service here.

Sickness is on the increase among the prisoners. The change from starvation to luxurious diet, (for many of the soldiers say they have never fared so well before since they enlisted), has been more than their emaciated frames would bear.

I saw two ladies yesterday just from Selma. They report that Selma was captured and burned by 1,800 cavalry, one week ago to-day. The small number sent there would seem to imply that Gen. Wilson is sweeping over a wide space of country on his march.

A rebel surgeon here informs me that there were only about 2,500 men left at Andersonville, and these were men unable to march. He says the only way left the rebels to deliver them now, is to ship them at Fort Gaines, a little village on the Chattahoochie, and send them by water to the Gulf, or cross the break in the road made by Gen. Wilson, in ambulances, and deliver them here, and the latter he thinks entirely impracticable.

Exchange is going on slowly, probably fifty men having been exchanged since I came here.

The prisoners have all been supplied with new clothing, but as they have no change, and we have enough for this purpose, I intend to issue shirts and drawers to all the men in camp to-morrow or next day.

Besides doing our regular sanitary work, I have been trying to fill a niche which could not be reached in any other way. For instance, all the Commissions were issuing largely of paper and pens but very little ink. So we turned our attention to the manufacture of ink, of which we have issued several gallons. One hospital had a large cooking range but no boiler, so we had one made suitable for making coffee. Another had a large stove and plenty of pipe except a peculiarly shaped piece connecting the two. This also we procured. In this way I have expended some $30, but I am sure it was well invested.

Mrs. Harvey has just returned from New Orleans. Mrs. Monroe arrived here several days since, and is making herself useful at the Barracks Hospital. Dr. Woodward and his wife reached here last night.

The steamer *D. A. Janway* has just arrived, and will relieve us of quite a number of the sick.

VICKSBURG, *April* 12, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—Colonel Watts, the Confederate Commissioner of Exchange, told Mr. Johnston to-day that he was expecting an order from the rebel authorities declaring all the prisoners now here exchanged, and to deliver them to the Federal authorities. There are some still coming in, but they are from General Smith's army near Mobile, and from General Wilson's cavalry force, and have been prisoner's only ten or twelve days. They were started for Andersonville, but, finding that Selma was in our possession, their destination was changed to this place. There is a rumor that the remainder of the Andersonville prisoners are to be delivered at some place in Florida, Pensacola, I believe. As soon as General Wilson's cavalry force has gone beyond the line of road, they may resume delivering here, but it is hardly probable, if all accounts of the destruction which he has created on his march be true.

I have not issued shirts and drawers, as I proposed to do in my last letter, for the reason that, on going to camp on Monday to make necessary arrangements, I found the quartermaster already issuing a second suit of underclothing.

Mrs. Monroe is at the barracks hospital. At this place they are laboring under very great disadvantages. The famished patients eat their full ration and still have not enough, and not a dollar of fund can be saved. The buildings are old barracks without any conveniences for hospital accommodations; and, as the whole establishment was extemporized, they are working in a very primitive way. They have but one cooking-range for the three hundred patients and all the attendants. This is fully occupied in cooking the regular ration, so that there is no provision whatever for light diet. The Medical Purveyor has no stoves or ranges, and, as the case is so urgent, I have purchased a second-hand range for Mrs. Monroe, and am fitting her up a kind of light-diet department. This range will be returned to us when the hospital is broken up. * *

We have received four small shipments of goods since I arrived; one from Cincinnati, one from Memphis, and two from Cairo.

I think we have plenty of everything except tobacco, paper, and fruit for the hospitals. The Western Commission brought down upwards of a thousand pounds of tobacco, but even that will not last long. Still whatever reaches here in time must be very soon on the way, as it is not expected the prisoners will remain long.

The steamer *Janway* did not take a load here, but went on to New Orleans.

VICKSBURG, *April* 16, 1865.

General Smith has just issued an order recalling all the prisoners who had been detailed or received passes to remain in town, and the order states that they are to be immediately parolled and sent north. * *

The prisoners will not begin to leave here within three days, and it will be at least a week or ten days before the camp will be broken up. Whatever stores are now on the way will have ample time to reach here and be distributed; but there will not be time for anything more, nor do I think anything more will be needed. The men have been abundantly supplied with everything, and they are the most grateful men I ever saw. I never heard so much cheering for the Sanitary Commission before as I have heard here. The Agents have been to the camp so often that we are well known now, and our appearance on the platform of the cars is the signal for a crowd to gather about us and ask, "Well, what have you got for us to-day?" The answer is, "Paper and envelopes, tobacco and pipes, needles and thread, or combs, towels, razors, and scissors," as the case may be. And then comes the expression, "Bully for that! it is just what we want." In issuing such articles, we visit every tent, leaving at each one a certain quantity, so that the whole is equally divided. Potatoes and kraut we deliver to the Commissary and have issued with the rations. Since my last report, I have received and issued the goods sent on the steamer *Ruth*, and have received notice of still more on the way, which will be here to-morrow. There are two hospital boats here, the *Baltic* and the *R. C. Wood*. The *Baltic* has taken on board three hundred and fifty sick, and leaves for St. Louis to-night.

State Agents are beginning to come in with their little stocks of stores, sent to "our State" troops exclusively. I confess that it gives me great pleasure to state that *all* the men have been liberally supplied with the very things they are bringing.

A few prisoners are still coming in, but they are from General Wilson's command, and are not suffering, having been prisoners only a few days. I meet some of the same men to whom I issued, six weeks ago, at Eastport.

LETTER FROM NASHVILLE, TENN.

BY E. L. JONES.

NASHVILLE, *April* 15, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY, Sec'ry.

DEAR SIR:—I enclose my report for week ending this evening.

I have sent forward all my kraut and pickles, and need a supply for distribution here. We could use some canned fruit to excellent advantage. Have not had a can except tomatoes for nearly a month. We need all the articles of bedding mentioned in former letters. Rags too, and dried beef. We ought to have some good whisky right away. We have only one or two boxes left, and that is about the only stimulant we keep. The lemons received are good. Oranges are asked for, and cordials are very much wanted and wines.

Our issues have been much lighter this week than usual. I have contracted them with the view of more fully and promptly relieving the wants of the large army in the mountains beyond Knoxville, as advised by Medical Director Cooper.

I have shipped nothing this week except a small invoice by Medical Inspector Hamlin on his special train, as the bridges have not yet been repaired. I have 400 barrels of potatoes which I shall forward so soon as the road is open, say middle of next week, and some dry goods.

No receipts this week except from Louisville.

The dreadful news from Washington has taken the vim out of all of us here to-day.

Yours very truly, E. L. JONES.

Please send us half a dozen boxes more of *that brandy*. We have good places for some more of it.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

BY CHARLES SEYMOUR.

KNOXVILLE, *April* 20, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary West'n. Dept., U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—Though you are, doubtless, aware of the important changes now in progress in this department, I wish to inform you of the relation of the Sanitary Commission to them. I came here just after the departure of Stoneman's and Tillson's divisions, and just as the 4th Army Corps arrived. I found the troops in great need of supplies. Many of the men had not tasted vegetables of any description since the distribution of onions by the Sanitary Commission, last January. I had just time to arrange matters around Knoxville, when Dr. Starr arrived and took charge of the distribution of the supplies for the troops at the front. Owing to the difficulty of transporting vegetables to troops at a distance from the railroad, there were no stores of any consequence issued until last week, when more than a thousand bushels of potatoes and three thousand five hundred gallons of pickles and kraut were distributed to three divisions of the 4th Corps; in the opinion of their surgeons an ample supply for the present. Two hundred and fifty barrels of potatoes and forty of pickles were reserved for the division under General Tillson, whom we expect to reach in the course of three or four days. I have been afforded all the information that I could desire by the officers in command of the troops, and all that could be done has been done for us by the men in charge of the railroad.

The issues from the store have been as large as the supplies permitted. Troops specially unhealthy, and those about to leave for the front, have been supplied with vegetables for both sick and well. *All* the troops in this vicinity have been supplied with stores sufficient for the immediate use of the sick. The call for these stores was very urgent. Many men were sent to the crowded hospitals, whom a *single meal* of food different from that which their stomach loathed, would have returned to duty. Some large issues have been made to hospitals, but most of the surgeons in charge of hospitals have been very energetic in providing for themselves. It often happens, however, that I am able to supply some little but important want. I had this morning the pleasure of giving some lemons to a father, whose son, very ill in the officers' hospital, had an invalid's craving for a fresh lemon. While the supply of handkerchiefs and towels lasted, they were issued, at the rate of twenty-five a day. Shirts have been issued very sparingly, only to the needy and deserving, with an average issue of some half dozen a day. The calls for paper and envelopes, answered by a little package containing three sheets of paper and the same number of envelopes, average about forty a day. Before this reaches you most if not all of the 4th Corps will be at Nashville.

Aside from Stoneman's cavalry, which I presume will look out for itself, there will be left dependent upon this post only some —— men. The soldiers' gardens about

Knoxville will supply the troops here very soon, though I am sorry that the largest here is so far behind the others in the matter of an *early* supply.

RATHER REMARKABLE.

The following has been sent us for publication:

A QUESTION FOR THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

To the Editor of the Boston Journal:

A fact has just come to our notice, which suggests an inquiry. The fact is this: The son of Mr. Samuel Rankin of the adjoining town of Wells, Me., was a soldier in the army, and while sick in the hospital received a blanket from the Sanitary Commission. Not recovering, he was sent home a few weeks ago, and died shortly after of the disease contracted while in the service. Soon after his death there came to the father a bill from the Sanitary Commission for three or four dollars for the blanket which it had furnished to the dying soldier in the hospital, which bill the father paid. Now what we want to know is this: Are the sick and wounded soldiers and their afflicted friends charged for the shirts, blankets, socks, &c., which they receive through this organization? F. E. F.

Kennebunk, Me., March 30.

The above "Question" appeared in the Boston Journal of the date of April 5, 1865. It appeared without editorial note or comment, and the responsibility for its truth or falsity must fall upon the author, Rev. F. E. Fellows, pastor of the Second Congregational Church, Kennebunk, Maine.

The revered gentleman is very positive in his assertions. Avoiding the cloak of probabilities, he stands boldly forth and makes his libelous statements as facts. "*A fact* has come to our notice." "*The fact* is this, &c."

Now, Mr. Fellows might have easily ascertained, as we have, the truth of these statements had he been so inclined. Mr. Rankin, the father upon whom this alleged swindle was perpetrated, lives but a short distance from the reverend gentleman, as he himself states, "in the adjoining town of Wells, Maine;" and he would doubtless have been as ready to oblige the author as he was the subject of that libel by a plain statement of facts.

Mr. Rankin's own evidence as to the truth of the matters mentioned in the article of Mr. Fellows, as given in a "Reply" to the "Question," published in the Boston Transcript of November 11, is briefly as follows:

The son of Mr. Rankin, a soldier in the Union armies, was sick and in hospital at Point of Rocks, Va. While there, Wm. Newbert, another soldier, of Co. I, 8th Maine Vols., sold, as he claimed, to young Rankin a blanket. For this blanket the father, after the death of his son, was called upon to, and did pay, but to Mr. Newbert, the soldier who sold the article, and to him only. The Sanitary Commission is not alluded to in the whole transaction, except in a letter from Mr. Woodman, a friend of young Rankin, through whom the payment for the blanket was made, who says, "I have *wondered* that your son should buy a blanket of him, Newbert, when there were Christian and *Sanitary Commissions* at the hospitals, who are supposed to furnish such articles for the comfort of sick soldiers."

The whole transaction is simply one between two soldiers; the one, Newbert, selling his blanket to the other, Rankin.

Now if the "Question" of the Reverend F. E. Fellows, of Kennebunk, Maine, has been answered, we would like, as we are both Yankees, to ask him one in turn. It is this: Are Reverend and Christian gentlemen to be allowed deliberately to write and procure to be published, libelous articles such as this, and then screen themselves behind the veil of silence?

This Reverend and Christian gentleman has been called upon for his authority for the statements put forth as "facts," but he fails utterly to return a word of reply to that request. It has been well said that speech is silver, but silence golden. Are we not justified in considering this silence as a golden proof that not even the plea of ignorance remains to this Reverend and Christian gentleman.

We append the written proofs of the truth of our version of this rather remarkable story.

From Letters of A. WOODMAN *to* SAMUEL RANKIN.

"I have received a letter from Mr. Newbert respecting a blanket, which I send you. As I know nothing about the matter, I have not felt authorized to send him the money without orders from you. If you want me to pay Mr. Newbert, you can send the Government price, $3 60 to me, and I will see that it is forwarded."

In another letter he says: "A few days since Mr. Newbert came to my regiment to see me. He said, if you, (Mr. Rankin) were able, or in good circumstances, he would want his pay for the blanket, but if you were not in fair circumstances he did not wish for the money. He made some inquiries, but as Sargeant Larrabee informed me that you are both able and willing to pay the bill, I have settled the same with Mr. Newbert, and will send you receipt in this. He concluded to take three dollars, ($3 00). I cannot tell whether the bill is just or not, and have to take Mr. Newbert's word for it. I have wondered that your son should buy a blanket of him when there were Christian and Sanitary Commissions at the hospitals who are supposed to furnish such articles for the comfort of sick soldiers.

(Signed) "A. WOODMAN'."

RECEIPT.

CAMP 8TH MAINE VOLS.,
SPRING HILL, VA., *April* 24, 1865.

Received by the hand of Alexander Woodman three dollars in full on Daniel Rankin's account for one woolen blanket sold him while in hospital at Point of Rocks, Va.

WM. NEWBERT,
Co. I, 8th Maine Vols.

The above is a true copy.

SAMUEL RANKIN.

LETTER FROM DR. BELLOWS.

NEW YORK, *April* 26, 1865.

To the Editor of the S. C. Bulletin:

DEAR SIR:—I find that the precise language I used in acknowledging the receipt of the magnificent contribution paid by one check into our Treasury, by the Treasurer of the Great Central Fair, has been misunderstood. I stated that it ($1,035,398$\frac{96}{100}$) was the largest ever made "*in one sum*" to our Treasury. This has been objected to, as if I had said it was the largest ever received *from one source;* a different proposition.

The contributions at various times forwarded from San Francisco and our California Branch, and which are credited to *one source*,—not including Oregon ($75,597 56), or Nevada ($99,512 46), or Washington Territory ($20,753 92),—reckon up, at this date, to $1,199,675 51.

The net product of the Metropolitan Fair (New York), of which the largest payment (May 17, 1864) was one million dollars, has, in nine separate installments, run up, at this date, to $1,184,146 72; so that the Metropolis is considerably ahead of the Quaker City in the total amount accruing from its great Fair.

Justice seemed to require this explanation of what was intended to be taken with *literal exactness*, but which is manifestly liable to be interpreted into a claim which was not set up for the Central Fair, *i. e.* a claim of having yielded a greater total result, and not merely of having made the largest payment *in one sum* ever made into our Treasury.

Very truly yours,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

WHAT REMAINS.

So earnest and faithful have the women of the country been since the commencement of the war, that now they begin to feel the reaction consequent upon its sudden cessation. But there still remains an important work, which nobody can do so easily or so well, as the thousands of earnest women who are still an organized power for good in the land.

The Confederacy is conquered, our army is coming home, and the prince of rebeldom (captured in skirts) has made his summer tour towards Washington.

The army that has conquered the rebellion, went away from our Northern and Western Homes, to do this noble work, with the prayers and sympathies of all loyal people. They were followed to camp, field, and hospital by the good wishes not only, but the active benevolence of the people.

As they return from camp, field, and hospital, it is meet that the people should welcome them with the same benevolent spirit which has animated all loyal hearts from the beginning.

As the hills of New England, the prairies of the great West, and the broad fields of the Middle States, have joined their products to the vast interests of all the mechanical industries and professions, as well as commercial and mercantile, in gifts of the people, to equip and sustain the army, so is it meet that, on the return of that army, every interest in society should be identified in the re-adjustment of our scores of thou-

sands of soldiers to their former civil relations, with as little delay and inconvenience to the men who have conquered our peace as may be possible. This is a great work. It is new to us all, but no more so than the war was in '61; and we shall find that we can render important aid on the homeward march, just as naturally and successfully as we did when our brave men left us.

The machinery of the Commission is still in good working order, and only needs to be contracted in some directions and extended in others. Our work belongs to the army. As the army leaves the field, so must we. As it marches homeward, we must march with it, establishing transient homes, temporary lodges, and such flying relief as circumstances and conditions demand.

In the field, we were always in the rear of the advancing army; as the army returns it finds us in the advance. The stations that were established, for example, at Richmond and Petersburg, as the army moved into those cities and occupied them, are still there with supplies for the needs of the vast forces that have since moved from farther south toward home. So also the ample provision established at Alexandria and Washington by the Commission for the great army that is encamped near that city, and is still gathering in "from near and from far," is another evidence of the foresight and care of the Commission. Extra arrangements have been made also in Philadelphia and New York in the east, and other centres in the west, from which the forces will scatter into smaller companies and groups, as they radiate to the remotest boundaries of our territory. What has been done by the Commission on a large scale in cities, to meet large numbers, will be done on a smaller scale in small places, to meet the few and even single individuals, who will return with their scars and trophies, to make their welcome all the more hearty. So far then as the Commission is represented in the towns, villages, and rural districts, by societies of earnest women, who have been meeting week after week to do something in this good cause, so far will these societies continue to represent the Commission in the extension of sympathy, advice and counsel to our home-coming troops.

So eager will they be to reach their homes that they will leave unadjusted their claims for pay, pensions, &c., confiding in the people to counsel and assist them. Anticipating the great amount of work to be done in this direction, the Commission is extending its claim offices all over the land. In all the important centres in the several states there will be agencies established for attention to these varied interests of the returned soldier, and of those families of soldiers who will never,—never return. Let the women of the country still retain their associations —meet together and talk over the cases of the men who shall come into their towns and neighborhoods, and see to it that they are kept out of the hands of sharpers who may otherwise defraud them of a good share of their dues, by charging heavy fees for collecting what the Commission will collect without charge. Let the widows and orphans of soldiers also occupy a large share of sympathy and aid. Find them out, lead them to the claim offices of the Sanitary Commission, where they will be instructed as to what is necessary in order to make their claims legal and valid, and then encourage them to trust their cases with the men who shall be selected to attend to these important interests for them.

Claims are not only to be collected, but employment is to be secured for many who will find themselves without sufficient means of support. Who so suitable to advise and assist, as women who have made it their life and joy for years past to sympathize with soldiers?

If every city, county, town, village and country society should constitute itself an Intelligence Association, and its rooms be opened as intelligence offices, with books for the registry of the names and qualifications

of applicants for situations as mechanics, or farmers or laborers, the re-institution of the army in peaceful pursuits would be facilitated not only, but established upon a basis that would do much toward securing permanent unity and fraternity throughout our borders.

This kind of sympathetic and yet practical relation of the soldiers and their families to the people among whom they may live, being the outgrowth of an interest which the labor of years in time of war has developed, seems to be so natural, that it scarcely needs more than a suggestion to secure its continuance. Let it claim consideration.

State agencies should also be enlisted in this unifying and federalizing process. While claim offices established by States are doing the same kind of work that the Commission agents are doing, it does not seem necessary that there should be any division of interest or clashing of work.

This terrible war, now brought to a conclusion so suddenly, and with such overwhelming victory for the right, has been a war for the establishment of unity and brotherhood. State lines have been, for the time forgotten. Geographical boundaries between larger sections have been obliterated, and our army comes back to us as the Army of the Union. Every soldier is a United States soldier; his pay comes to him from the United States Treasury; his name will be remembered by his children, after he shall have gone to his rest, not only as their father, but as a veteran in the cause of liberty under the flag of the Union. How fitting, then, that he should reach his civil and social status again through the channels by which he found his way to the field. The women of his town helped him to go from his home, and his state as a Union soldier; so they should help him, as he comes back again, to collect his claims upon the Government he has sustained, through a channel that runs as wide and deep as the Union itself.

THE SPIRIT OF THE COMMISSION.

We are glad to insert the following circular to the Branches and Aid Societies. It comes with peculiar force to us, as the embodiment of the very ideas and thoughts contained in the preceding article, and we have no doubt that the same feelings and impulses have moved in the minds and hearts of our friends all through the land.

The spirit of the Commission is surely not only alive, but enlivened with the fresh inspiration of a new field and a new work. A new mode of administration also seems to be called for in the exigency into which we have naturally fallen. Let it be encouraged and stimulated everywhere. In the former work of the Commission that is written so vividly on the successive pages of the last four years of war, there is an evident spirit of earnest Christian devotion to the cause of our country and our soldiers, which has come from a deep and pure fountain, so steady and unostentatious in its flow, that its strength has not been felt as it deserved, amid the mighty achievements of warriors, and the busy parade of self-seeking devotees at the shrine of fame. But now that the warrior is crowned with victory, and the little, yet tumultuous streams that have rippled along the surface are subsiding, the Sanitary Commission, still living in the hearts of the people, and deriving its strength from the source of All Might, is entering upon a new "campaign" for humanity, that shall add to the already accumulated testimonials of the expansive wisdom and benevolence of those who conceive its plans, and of the people who cherish and execute them. The stream must flow on.

BRANCHES AND AID SOCIETIES.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 15, 1865.

To the Branches and Soldiers' Aid Societies tributary to the United States Sanitary Commission:

At the late quarterly session of the Board of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, held at

Washington, April 18–21, the President and General Secretary were requested to prepare an address to the various Branches and Aid Societies co-operating with the Commission, and awaiting instructions from the Commission as to their present and future duty.

Since that period such rapid changes have occurred in the military situation, affecting so materially the work of the Commission, that it has been impossible, until now, to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to the probable demands to be made upon us.

While our work in the field is rapidly drawing to a close, there remains much to be done by the Commission within the approaching two months for the relief and comfort of our armies as they return from their long marches and exhausting service. New depots of supplies have already been established at the several points where these armies are to rendezvous and encamp preparatory to their discharge.

The abandonment of the Post and Base Hospitals must increase for the time the already large number of patients in General Hospital, while the necessary aid to be extended to the various garrisons during the interval preceding the more permanent adjustment of the new military status must make large drafts upon our resources. The supplies now available at our several depots are wholly insufficient to meet this final but urgent demand upon the Supply Service; and, deeming it important both for the actual relief of existing needs and for the consistent completion of this work of the people, continued now through four successive years of faithful co-operation, that our issues be not meagre or our care neglectful, we call upon our Branches and Aid Societies to maintain their usual system and activity up to the 4th July next, persevering in their work until that time with unabated energy, and with an intelligent appreciation of the necessity of the case.

It is confidently anticipated that their labors in contributing supplies to the hospitals and the field may properly terminate at that date, unless wholly improbable and unexpected events arise to make such conclusion of their work unpatriotic and inhumane. Timely notice will be given if any such necessity occur.

In the meantime the rapid disbanding of our armies and their immediate return to their relations in civil life will devolve upon our Branches and Aid Societies a new and important work, to be performed under their immediate supervision, and necessitating the maintenance of their organization for an indefinite period. The occasion for this continued effort grows out of the fact that these returning soldiers, by their military service, have become more or less detached from their previous relations, associations, and pursuits, which are now to be re-established. Many of these men will be not only physically but morally disabled, and will exhibit the injurious effects of camp life in a weakened power of self-guidance and self-restraint, inducing a certain kind of indolence, and, for the time, indisposition to take hold of hard work. The possession of money in the majority of cases will increase the inducements to idleness and dissipation, as well as the exposure to imposition. To protect the soldier from these evils and temptations, naturally resulting from his previous military life, is a duty which is now owed to him by the people, as much as was the care extended to him, through the Commission, while in active service in the field; for we are to regard the future necessity that may exist for help and guidance to returned soldiers as no less a condition incident to the war than the wounds and sickness to which the supply agencies of the Commission have hitherto so generously ministered.

In submitting to our Aid Societies a practical plan of work adapted to these new conditions, our object is to suggest such methods as will aid the process by which these men are to resume their natural and proper relations in civil life.

The first and most important means in the accomplishment of this object will be found in a systematic provision for securing suitable occupation to all these returned men, adapted, where necessary, to the condition of those partially disabled, thus constituting each Branch and Aid Society a "Bureau of Information and Employment," by which the light occupations in all towns, and whatever work can be as well done by invalid soldiers as by others, shall be religiously given to the men who may have incapacitated themselves for rivalry in more active and laborious fields of duty by giving their limbs, their health, and their blood to the nation.

To this end, and to guard against the possibility of imposition, the names of all men who have enlisted from each town and

city should be obtained and preserved, and a record kept that shall gather all facts material to the work in hand; which, while it will be the means of collecting most useful information, will, at the same time, constitute an invaluable contribution to the history of the war. Carefully prepared forms for this purpose will be furnished from the Central Office of the Commission, to which monthly returns will be made, and where they will be duly tabulated. These results will be promptly transmitted each month to the several Aid Societies, to furnish whatever guidance they may for the wise prosecution of the work.

The co-operation of our Aid Societies in extending information concerning the various agencies of the Commission for the relief and aid of discharged soldiers and their families will constitute another important service which they may render.

Some of these agencies are of a character which will not terminate with the disbanding of our armies, but will find their largest field of activity and usefulness during the year succeeding the close of the war.

The Commission is rapidly extending its system of Claim Agencies to all the principal cities and centres of population throughout the country. Through these agencies all claims of soldiers or sailors and their families are adjusted with the least possible delay and without charge, thus securing to the applicants the full amount of the claim as allowed, and exemption from the heavy tax, and often gross imposition and fraud, to which they are subjected by the ordinary methods. The evils to which the discharged soldier is exposed in the adjustment of claims against the Government are of so grave a nature that no effort should be spared to secure to him the benefits of this agency of the Commission's work. Regarding the Local Aid Societies as the natural guardians of the soldiers and the supervisors of the work of the Commission in their respective towns or cities, it is desired that they will exercise a careful superintendence of this work, promoting by every practicable means its efficiency, and making sure that every returned soldier in their vicinity and the family of every deceased soldier is actually informed of the aid gratuitously offered them by this agency of the Commission.

The maintenance of the organization of our Aid Societies will preserve to the Sanitary Commission the means of communicating with the people, from time to time, upon such topics as concern the continued welfare of returned soldiers, and especially in regard to the more permanent provision which it will be necessary to make for disabled soldiers, incapable of self-support. It is the profound conviction of the Sanitary Commission, that the peculiar genius and beauty of American institutions is to show itself in the power which the ordinary civil, social, and domestic life of the nation exhibits to absorb rapidly into itself our vast army, and restore to ordinary occupations those who have been fighting our battles; while the sick and wounded are distributed through the country, objects of love, care, and restoration, in the several communities where they belong, instead of being collected in great State and national asylums, objects of public ostentation, and subjected to the routine, the isolation, and the ennui of an exceptional, unfruitful, and unhappy existence. Public provision of this latter kind, as free from its evil as may be, must be made for a certain small class of the friendless and the totally disabled; but humanity and American feeling demand that this class should be reduced to the smallest possible number through the zeal and friendliness shown towards our returning invalid soldiers in the towns from which they originally came. The Sanitary Commission will soon lay before its Branches and the public, plans for such asylums for disabled and discharged soldiers as it may be necessary to establish.

Reserving the expression of our gratitude to our Branches and Soldiers' Aid Societies to a later period, we remain in behalf of the Board,

Yours, faithfully and truly,

H. W. BELLOWS,
President.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

WIVES AND MOTHERS.

We give below a little table exhibiting the work of one of the Commission's Homes for Wives and Mothers. This is a feature of the work that has grown as a necessity upon us, and has been met only as a necessity. It might have been extended almost without limit, had the Commission felt warranted in appropriating any very considerable amount of the people's contributions to such an object; but it could not fail to

help the soldiers by helping their wives and mothers, whenever they sought it under circumstrnces which seemed to demand their aid. The amount of special individual relief afforded to such, outside of the Homes by way of counsel and direction, cannot be estimated; but the feeding and lodging at one post may be seen in the following table, to which we invite special attention.

REPORTS OF DRS. C. R. AGNEW AND J. C. DALTON.

Preliminary Report of the Operations of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in North Carolina, March, 1865, and upon the Physical Condition of Exchanged Prisoners lately received at Wilmington, N. C.

NEW YORK, *April* 4, 1865.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—The accompanying report, marked "A," from J. C. Dalton, M.D., Professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, will put you in possession of the leading facts connected with our voyage from New York to Wilmington, on the Commission's steamer *Chase*.

In obedience to the instructions from the Standing Committee of the Commission, we left New York on Saturday, March 11, at 9 P.M., for Beaufort, North Carolina. We arrived there on Tuesday, March 14, at 4.30 P.M. I immediately communicated, by telegraph, with Dr. Page at Newbern, and informed him of our arrival. After waiting some hours without reply from Dr. Page, who was absent at the front near Kinston, where General Schofield was pushing the enemy vigorously, I endeavored to secure a landing for such stores as we wished to send from the cargo of the *Chase* to Newbern. This I failed to do, from the fact that the only wharf at the terminus of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad was in possession of the Construction Corps, and used entirely for the landing of locomotives and other rolling stock. Accordingly, I chartered the *J. H. Maitland*, a schooner, intending to use her as a storeboat. The *J. H. Maitland*, at this time, had on board coal for the navy, which Captain West, in command of the fleet in Beaufort harbor, offered to remove as speedily as possible.

Consolidated Report of "Home for Soldier's Wives and Mothers." Washington, D. C. J. B. CLARK, *Superintendent.*

1864, January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	1865, January	February	March	April	Total	Average	Alabama.	Kentucky.	Lousiana.	Nor. Car.	Son. Car.	Tenn.	Texas.	Virginia.	Total Refugees.	Daily Average.	Sum Total.	Daily Average.	Number Lodged.	Number Lodgings.	Nightly average Lodgings.	Number furnished with Meals.	Number meals furnished.	Daily Average of Meals.	Medical treatment.
4	1	1	1	5	4	10	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	44	1.9								3	3	.1	47	2.0	74	1,340	11.0	62	846	27.2	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	26	1.1								1	1	.0	27	1.1	40	580	4.8	13	324	10.4	
4	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	17	.7								1	1	.0	18	.7	21	213	1.8	7	183	6.1	
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	.8								1	1	.0	5	.2	7	40	.3	3	40	1.3	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	.8								1	1	.0	5	.2	7	40	.3	3	40	1.3	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	31	1.3								2	2	.0	33	1.4	48	1,045	8.7	21	1,045	33.7	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	31	1.3								2	2	.0	33	1.4	48	1,045	8.7	21	1,045	33.7	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	30	1.3								2	2	.0	32	1.3	47	1,122	9.4	21	1,122	37.4	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	30	1.3								2	2	.0	32	1.3	47	1,123	9.4	21	1,123	37.4	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	30	1.3								2	2	.0	32	1.3	47	1,123	9.4	21	1,123	37.4	
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	30	1.3								2	2	.0	32	1.3	47	1,540	12.8	21	1,540	51.3

Two o'clock, Thursday the 16th inst., we began to transfer a portion of our cargo to the *Maitland*, and on Saturday the 18th, at half-past eleven, having lightened the *Chase* so as to enable her to pass over Wilmington bar, we sailed for Wilmington.

On Sunday the 19th, at one o'clock, we reached the dock at Wilmington. I immediately requested Dr. Dalton to make a thorough visitation of the hospitals, ascertain the number of returned prisoners needing our services, and also the number of sick and wounded from Generals Sherman's, Schofield's, and Terry's commands.

During his absence I waited upon General J. C. Abbott, the commandant of the post, to inform him of our arrival, and obtain from him facilities for the discharge of our cargo. He took a lively interest in our mission, and sent me to Captain Lamb, A. Q. M., who furnished a detail of fifty men, and placed at our disposal a large covered wharf, having ready access from the main river street and ample space for the storage of our entire cargo. Having secured these facilities, I went to the distributing rooms of the Commission in the town, and reported our arrival to Mr. Foster, the devoted and overworked agent of the Commission in charge of its affairs here. Mr. Foster had issued his last supplies the previous afternoon, and our arrival, was therefore, most opportune. I may mention, as an evidence of the work done by Mr. Foster, in attempting to meet the more pressing wants of the returned prisoners, previously to our arrival, that he had issued, among other supplies, two hundred and forty barrels of milk punch.

Early on Monday morning, March 20th, we began discharging our cargo, and Dr. Dalton returned from his visit of inspection, with the report that there were between twelve and thirteen hundred returned prisoners in the warehouses and hospitals of Wilmington, and about twenty-six hundred sick and wounded men from General Sherman's army and from the commands of Generals Schofield and Terry. The corrected returns, subsequently received, show that there were at that date actually twenty-four hundred and seventy-five (2475) returned prisoners.

Dr. Dalton reported that all these men would need woolen clothing and condensed food, stimulants, and esculents, and that the surgeons, including Dr. Buzzell, the ranking medical officer, hailed the advent of the Sanitary Commission with great joy. I refer you to Dr. Dalton's report for information as to the principles which regulated us in estimating the amount of food probably necessary to secure the largest benefit to the sufferers.

The surgeons in charge of the various hospitals began to send in their requisitions at an early hour on Monday morning, and the issues made upon their requisitions were sufficient to clothe and feed every individual in the various hospitals and warehouses, and to secure an ample reserve supply of food and clothing for two or three weeks to come.

In order to aid Mr. Foster in the performance of his duties, I instructed him to secure the services of two clerks, and I also requested Mr. Hoblit, our able Relief Agent, who had accompanied General Sherman from Atlanta to Savannah, to make a regular tour of the hospitals, and urge upon the surgeons the necessity of furnishing the patients as large a quantity of tomato soup made from beef-stock, of condensed milk, of chocolate, onions, and farinaceous food, as in their judgment the condition of their patients would require.

I found the surgeons in charge of the various hospitals working to the utmost of their ability in the care of these needy men. Many of them had carried their exertions far beyond the limits of prudence, forgetting themselves in their desire to do good. Many of them were sick, including Dr. Buzzell;* and Dr. Palmer, one of the ablest men in the volunteer corps, had worn himself out and died, while Dr. Jarvis and others who still survived were self-sacrificing in their professional ministrations. My experience here was in keeping with what I have heretofore seen in the conduct of the medical officers in hospitals and on the field; and I think that the people do not yet understand or appreciate what has been done, and what is now doing here and elsewhere every day, by the medical staff, to mitigate the sufferings that inevitably accompany war.

Having completed the arrangements for the discharge of the cargo of the *Chase*, I visited some of the warehouses and hospitals, to examine into the condition of the returned prisoners. I shall not attempt here to picture their fearful condition.

I congratulate the Commission upon the opportunity which was afforded by the presence of so distinguished a physiologist as Dr. Dalton, who could bring to bear his

* Has since died a martyr to the cause of humanity.

powers of analysis and diagnosis, in establishing the facts with reference to the causes which had reduced these men to their present lamentable condition. Dr. Dalton spent Sunday and Monday in visiting the hospitals containing the returned prisoners, with a view of determining whether their condition was due to disease, or the consequence of starvation and exposure, and for his calm and well-digested opinion upon this subject, I refer you to his report, heretofore alluded to, marked "A."

I had several interviews with citizens of Wilmington who had seen our prisoners as they were brought into the city for exchange, with a view of ascertaining what their impressions were, as to the motives which influenced the rebel officers in the management of squads in their respective commands. I found that some of the rebel officers in charge of our returned prisoners had permitted the citizens to furnish them food, while others had forbidden all access to the pens in which the men were quartered; and one, a rebel captain, having charge of about a thousand men, had gone with his drawn sword and knocked the food from the hands of the famished men, informing the citizens who had furnished it, "that the best thing that could happen to the Yankees was to be starved, and thus expiate the crime which they had committed in invading southern territory and destroying the peace of southern homes."

On Tuesday we sailed for Beaufort, taking as passengers David B. Adams, M. D., late Acting Assistant Surgeon U. S. A., sick with typhoid fever, and Henry Hiscocks, Captain Battalion G, 1st Missouri Light Artillery, who was in a state of confirmed phthisis, the consequence of exposure and privation during eight months in a Southern prison, and Colonel B. S. Pardee, Connecticut State Agent.

On Wednesday we reached Beaufort harbor, and discharged the balance of our freight upon the *Maitland*, making an issue of onions and potatoes to the fleet in the harbor, as many of the men in the fleet had been without any but the scantiest supply of vegetables for two or three months.

On Thursday we waited upon General L. V. Easton, obtained coal for the *Chase*, made through him an issue of pickles to the six hundred men in the quartermaster's squad, and started by rail for Newbern.

Dr. Page, Inspector of the Commission, on duty in North Carolina, joined us at Morehead City, and went with us to Newbern. At Newbern I examined into the working of our relief stations, visited Dr. Cowgill, surgeon in charge of the Foster Hospital, Dr. Hand the Medical Director, and General Palmer, the Commandant of the post. I found Dr. Page distributing potatoes and onions and other antiscorbutic food, with woolen clothing and other sanitary supplies to the needy soldiers in Newbern and to such as were sent to the rear from the command of General Schofield.

Messrs. Page and Bowman were absent from Newbern, having pushed forward with General Schofield in the advance to Kinston, carrying with them on the construction train two large feeding tents, to meet the wants of those who were wounded and sent to the rear, in the various skirmishes and fights for the possession of the line of the road between Newbern and Goldsboro'. Dr. Page will report to you in detail the operations of the relief corps in connection with General Schofield's advance. Suffice it to say that the abundant resources of the Commission had been used in such a manner as to give material aid and comfort to some thousands of needy men.

Dr. Cowgill's hospital, the Foster, was a model of successful organization and administration, and I was very much struck with the quarters appropriated to the use of the rebel wounded. These quarters were hospital tents raised above the ground, upon yellow pine underpinning and floors, bountifully supplied with bedding, attendants, food, and medicine, and in every way a credit to the professional skill and philanthropy of Dr. Cowgill, and the humanity of our Government. I could not avoid indulging the comparison between the condition of these men under the care of our medical officers, and that of our poor fellows who had suffered in rebel hospitals and rebel prison pens.

I found that Dr. Page was making preparations to cultivate his large hospital garden, amounting to over one hundred acres in the suburbs of Newbern, for the benefit of men in the hospitals, and the forces operating in this vicinity, while all the details of his work in other fields of usefulness were being attended to with admirable zeal, fidelity, and intelligence.

Leaving Newbern on Saturday, we passed through Pamlico, Croatan, and Albemarle Sounds, and the Albemarle and Chesapeake

Canal to Norfolk, where I visited Mr. Sherman, the gentleman in charge of the affairs of the Commission at this point, and examined his store-house, and method of transacting business, with satisfaction.

I then visited the lodge of the Commission at Portsmouth, opposite Norfolk, which is in charge of Mr. Alcock. I found this lodge in admirable order. As you are familiar with its condition and usefulness through the regular reports of Mr. Alcock, I shall not enter into details.

On Monday the 27th, I left Norfolk for New York, via Fortress Monroe and Baltimore. I cannot express too highly my obligations to Dr. Dalton for his able services, nor forget to mention those of Messrs. Cobb and W. A. Paton, who accompanied us from New York, and gave their assistance in many of the details of the work.

Very respectfully yours,

C. R. AGNEW.

—

A.

Report of J. C. DALTON, M. D., *Professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.*

The Steamer *Chase* left New York on Saturday evening, March 11, for Beaufort Harbor and Wilmington, N. C., laden with beef-stock, condensed milk, onions, potatoes, pickles, and other similar articles, together with an abundance of flannel underclothing and blankets. It was intended to discharge the cargo, in whole or in part, at either Beaufort Harbor or Wilmington, as the necessities of the case might make it desirable. It was anticipated that the wants of the sick and wounded from General Schofield's corps, and, possibly, also from General Sherman's army, then moving in a northeasterly direction on its way from Columbia, would be best relieved from the direction of Beaufort; while the necessities of our returned prisoners, recently delivered at Wilmington, would require supplies at the last-named point.

On entering Beaufort Harbor, where the steamer arrived on the afternoon of Tuesday the 14th, a large number of transports were found waiting, partly discharged and partly still laden with supplies and material. General Schofield's corps, which had been transferred by sea from Wilmington to Beaufort, had advanced to Newbern and thence, and along the line of the railroad, toward Goldsboro'. At the time of our arrival it had reached a point within a few miles of Kinston, where it had come in contact with the enemy, and repulsed him after a somewhat severe engagement on the 10th and 11th instants. The efficient agents of the Commission were accordingly then at the front, doing all in their power to aid in relieving the wounded from this engagement; and Dr. Agnew soon learned by communications from them that their supplies were already sufficient for that particular emergency. The railroad from Morehead City, in Beaufort Harbor, to Newbern and Kinston was then entirely in the hands of a construction corps, which was actively engaged in relaying the track and getting the road in running order to the rear of General Schofield's advancing columns, and it was impossible to obtain transportation over this road even to Newbern, except for material required for the construction of the road itself, and supplies absolutely essential for the subsistence of the army. The only other mode of sending to Newbern was to go round by way of Hatteras Inlet and the Neuse River, but this could only be done by vessels of much lighter draft than the *Chase*. It was decided, therefore, to discharge a part of the cargo upon a schooner, which could remain in Beaufort Harbor as a store-ship, and from which such supplies as were needed at Newbern could be sent round from time to time on lighters, by way of Hatteras Inlet. The remaining and larger portion of the cargo was to be taken immediately to Wilmington in the *Chase*, for the use of the returned prisoners. These arrangements were completed by the evening of Friday the 17th. By that time we learned that General Schofield had again advanced and had occupied Kinston without further opposition.

On Saturday, 18th inst., at noon the *Chase* left Beaufort Harbor, and arrived off the bar at the entrance of Cape Fear River before daylight on Sunday, the 19th. At 11 A. M. she crossed the bar, and came to her dock at Wilmington early in the afternoon of the same day.

At Wilmington, we found 3,940 sick and wounded men, including the returned prisoners, whose condition was such that they were all to be regarded as sick men, and urgently in need of comfort and relief. Of the whole number to be cared for there were about 2,000 sick belonging to the command of General Terry (who had moved directly north after the capture of Wilmington, on

the line of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad), and about 600 from General Sherman's army, who had been sent down the north-western branch of the Cape Fear River, a few days previously, from Fayetteville. The remainder consisted of our returned prisoners, 1250 in number. Corrected returns, subsequently received, show the number of returned prisoners to have been twenty-four hundred and seventy-five (2,475); making the grand total about 4,900, who had been delivered by the enemy a short distance above the city, at the north-eastern branch of the Cape Fear River, since our occupation of the town. Of these General Terry's sick and wounded were, of course, the best provided for, since they had occupied the town from the date of its capture, and felt, more than anything else, the want of ambulances and other means of transportation, which had been necessarily taken with the main column on its advance northward. Those arriving from General Sherman's command were, many of them, quite destitute, having been on the march through the enemy's country for about two months, ever since the date of General Sherman's leaving Savannah. They needed clothing and food as well as rest and medicines. But the greatest and most pitiful necessities were among our returned prisoners. No description can do justice to their miserable condition, because nothing but an actual inspection of them, in considerable numbers, can show that the wretched faces and figures that present themselves everywhere are not the isolated and exceptional effects of severe illness, but the general result of a uniform and long-continued process of starvation and misery. There were degrees, of course, in which this condition was more or less marked. The better cases were walking about the streets, perhaps barefooted, or with no other clothing than a pair of white cotton drawers and an old blanket or overcoat, both equally ragged. In these the slow, dragging gait, listless manner, and cavernous, inexpressive look of the face, together with the general emaciation, formed a peculiar aspect, by which they alone attracted the attention of the passer-by, and by which they were at once distinguished from the other convalescent soldiers. There was no occasion to inquire in Wilmington which were our returned prisoners; after half a day's experience, any one could distinguish them at a glance. Many of them, who had strength to crawl about in this manner, were prevented from doing so by the want of clothing. Major Randlete, the Provost Marshal of Wilmington, told me that on one day forty of these men came into our lines *absolutely as naked as they were born*. I inquired of a considerable number of them, whom I saw in the hospitals confined to their beds, naked or with only a shirt, and covered with a hospital blanket, what had become of their clothing, and was told that they had thrown away what remained as soon as they could obtain shelter, because it was so ragged, filthy, and full of vermin. One of them, on being told that the Sanitary Commission had sent them flannel shirts and drawers, caught at the word with a childish eagerness, and repeated the good news to his companions, with a faint half-imbecile smile, as long as I was within hearing. With the great majority of the feebler ones, personal cleanliness was a thing which they appeared to have entirely forgotten. They no longer retained sufficient strength, either of mind or body, to appreciate or correct the degradation to which months of unavoidable uncleanliness had reduced them. In the most extreme cases the condition of the mind, as well as the expression of the face, was absolutely *fatuous*, and the aspect of the patient was not that of a strong man reduced by illness, but that of an idiotic pauper, who had been such from his birth. Nevertheless, several of the surgeons informed me that the condition of the patients had visibly improved since their reception, and that I could not then form an adequate idea of what it was when they entered our lines. In that case it must have been lamentable beyond description.

The testimony of both men and officers was uniform as to the causes of their unnatural condition. These causes were, 1st, starvation, and, 2d, exposure. Only such officers and men as could procure money were able to obtain anything like sufficient nourishment. Some of them told me that during the entire winter they had received absolutely no meat; a pint of corn-meal, often with the cob ground in, sometimes with and sometimes without salt, a handful of "cow-peas," and sometimes sorghum molasses, constituted their usual ration. When in hospital, they had only very thin corn-meal gruel and a little corn-bread. To the debility occasioned by this insufficient food was added that resulting from exposure. It was a common thing for a prisoner, imme-

diately on being taken, to be stripped of his clothing—shoes, socks, pantaloons, shirts, and drawers—and to be left with only an old and worn-out pair of drawers and, perhaps, an equally worn-out shirt and blanket given him in exchange. This robbery of clothing was also practiced, more or less, upon officers. Even an assistant-surgeon, who was captured within four miles of Richmond, told me that he was robbed of his flannel shirt, while standing in front of the Libby Prison, and in presence of the rebel officer in charge of the squad. This was immediately after his arrival in the city, and when he had been, for the three days succeeding his capture, entirely without food. With the scanty clothing thus left them, the men were kept during the winter, often without any shelter, excepting such as they could contrive to provide by excavating a sort of rifle-pit in the ground, and covering it with old blankets or canvas, as their supply of fuel was insufficient, and sometimes entirely wanting. Even in the hospitals their suffering from cold was very great.

One of the most melancholy sights in Wilmington was that to be seen at the "Geer" hospitals. In these hospitals were collected all those patients who had lost their feet, either wholly or in part, by freezing, from their exposure during the past winter, and this in a well-wooded country. In some of them two or three toes only, on one or both feet, were gangrened, and in process of separating by ulceration; in others both feet had entirely separated, and and the patients were awaiting the time when their general strength and the condition of the stump would warrant a final amputation. In many cases the patients ascribed this gangrene directly to frostbites received on particular occasions; in others to their illness from which they were suffering—generally fever combined with exposure. My own impression, derived from the result of many inquiries, was that it was generally due to a continuous depression of the vital energies from starvation and neglect, resulting gradually in a destruction of the life of those parts most exposed to the cold and the weather. With all these cases awaiting relief, it was impossible that the stores brought by the *Chase* should have come at a more opportune period. From all the officers in Wilmington, of all grades and departments, there was but one expression of gratitude and relief at hearing of our arrival, and we could not have asked more ready and cordial co-operation than was given us at once by all upon whom we depended for information and assistance. A capacious covered dock was at once assigned for the discharge and storage of the supplies, and an abundant force of negro refugees assigned to the labor of unloading the steamer. So rapidly was this work effected that during the day, on Monday, supplies were already in process of distribution to the various hospitals, a complete list of which, with the number of patients in each, had been previously obtained. The covered dock was used as an issuing office, as well as a storehouse, and, being very capacious and well-lighted, it afforded admirable facilities for reaching the various articles as they were needed.

It was found that all the returned prisoners, without exception, and all the men recently arrived from General Sherman's army, needed flannel shirts, drawers, and blankets; that shirts and drawers were also required by all the other sick and wounded then in hospital, and blankets by about two-thirds of them. Tin plates, cups, knives, and forks were also much needed, all of which were at once supplied. In order to regulate the distribution of food and stimulus to the different hospitals, the following diet table was made out, to serve as the basis of calculation. It was thought that such a ration, with the interchanges between various articles which could be readily effected whenever desired, would be best suited to the greater portion of the cases:

Name of Article.	Daily Ration.
Beef-stock,	2 oz.
Canned tomatoes,	8 "
Condensed milk,	4 "
Onions,	4 "
Potatoes,	4 "
Soft crackers,	4 "
Chocolate,	1 "
Pickles,	4 "
Whiskey,	2 "

The various hospitals were requested to send down requisitions according to the above diet table, in quantities corresponding with the number of patients in each hospital; they were not restricted, however, absolutely to the above quantities, but the diet table was adopted as expressing a *minimum* ration, which could be increased, if desirable, in particular cases, and which could be supplemented, for those patients who were

able to bear it, with articles from the regular army ration.

Early on Tuesday morning a sufficient quantity of the above articles had been landed to supply the whole number of patients in Wilmington for at least fifteen days. A portion of the cargo, over and above this amount, which would be more probably required at Newbern at the next emergency, was retained for reconveyance to Beaufort harbor. On Tuesday afternoon the steamer left Wilmington, and proceeded down the river to Fort Fisher, but, owing to a south-easterly gale and consequent heavy sea on the bar, she was unable to go out until the following day, Wednesday, the 22d instant, at 2 o'clock, P.M. At that time she crossed the bar unhurt without difficulty, and again entered Beaufort harbor on the morning of Thursday, the 23d. At Beaufort harbor the remainder of her cargo was transferred to the storeship, and the steamer, after coaling, sent back to New York.

Very respectfully yours,
J. C. DALTON,

TESTIMONIAL.

CANNONSBURG, PA., *May* 18, 1865.

MR. STRONG.

DEAR SIR:—Please find enclosed $5 00 for the benefit of the noble Sanitary Commission.

Though we fondly hope the mission of this generous institution will soon terminate with a happy issue of our national troubles in a triumphant peace, no doubt you can yet spend thousands of dollars for the good of our unfortunate braves. Having received many kind offices from it while in the service and since, I feel bound to contribute something, hoping some poor soldier will be blessed by it as a thank offering to be disbursed by the agents of the grandest charitable association, in many respects, that was ever organized. The history of the United States Sanitary Commission, will brighten with age.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
SAMUEL B. MCBRIDE.

CORRECTION.

In Bulletin of May 1, 1865, page 1172, in heading of article "Workings of U. S. Sanitary Commission at Camp Parole, Va.," read Camp Distribution, instead of Camp Parole.

On page 1173, last line above the table of stores, read "from Dec. 17, 1862" not (63), to "Dec. 31, 1863."

The last error occurs in the copy from which this article was taken, and is no fault of ours, but as it is a misprint in the original, as we are informed by the Editor of the Journal, and will be corrected there, it should be also corrected here.

MARCHES.

Fifteen miles per day is considered a fair average for infantry; and upon long marches ten miles including all the necessary delays, is accounted good traveling. This will depend much however upon the nature of the country, the season of the year, as well as upon whether the troops are newly recruited, or old soldiers accustomed to hardships and to travel.

Some of the longest marches of infantry upon record have been made by American troops. During the first year of the Mexican war, General Kearney was placed in command of the *Army of the West*, with instructions to conquer New Mexico and California. He left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in June, and after a journey of nine hundred miles over the great plains and mountain ranges, arrived at *Santa Fe*, the capital of New Mexico, on the 18th of August.

In the year 1860, a large portion of the Seventh Regiment marched from Camp Floyd, U. T., to Fort Buchanan, New Mexico, having travelled one thousand miles and spent one hundred and forty days on the road. But the most unprecedented march of infantry was made by the gallant old Sixth, in 1859, which left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for California, a distance of one thousand eight hundred miles, and was one hundred and ninety days on the road, of which one hundred and sixty-two were actually passed in marching; being at the rate of about eleven miles per day.

During the present war, our own armies and the armies of the Confederates, have furnished us with numerous examples of long and rapid marches; and in very many instances these marches have been made under an almost constant succession of engagements, demonstrating both the valor and endurance of the American troops.—*Hamilton's Military Surgery.*

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All the papers and correspondence required to procure Pensions, Bounty and Back Pay, and Prize Money for discharged soldiers and sailors, and for the relatives of soldiers and sailors dying in the service of the United States, prepared and forwarded, and the proceeds of all claims, when collected, remitted to the parties entitled, *free of charge.*

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., No. 18 West St., Boston, Mass.
U. S. San. Com., Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.
U. S. San. Com., State House, New Haven, Conn.
U. S. San. Com., 1307 Chestnut St., Philada.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. San. Com., 244 F St., Washington, D. C.
U. S. San. Com. Camp Distribution, Va.
U. S. San. Com., 46 Sharp St., Baltimore, Md.
U S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., corner Vine and Sixth Sts., Cincinnati, O.
U. S. San. Com., No. 95 Bank St., Cleveland, O.
U. S. San. Com., No. 66 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.
U. S. San. Com., No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.
U. S. San. Com., No. 59 Fourth St., Pittsburgh, Penna.
U. S. San. Com., No. 32 Larned St., Detroit, Mich.
U. S. San. Com., Columbus, O.
U. S. San. Com., Fifth St., Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

F. N. KNAPP, Supt., Washington, D. C.
J. B. ABBOTT, Chief Assistant, Washington, D.C.

"SOLDIERS' HOMES" AND "LODGES."

[OBJECTS. Temporary aid and protection,—food, lodging, care, &c.,—for soldiers in transitu, chiefly the discharged, disabled, and furloughed.]

Alexandria, Va. "ALEXANDRIA LODGE." Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Superintendent.

Annapolis, Md. "HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS." Mrs. Hopes Sayres, Matron.

Baltimore, Md. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 62 Conway Street. A. E. Hastings, Supt.

"SOLDIERS' LODGE." Opposite Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Station. ——, Superintendent.

Boston, Mass. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 76 Kingston Street. Charles F. Mudge, Supt., near Boston and Worcester Railroad Depot.

Buffalo, N. Y. "SOLDIERS' REST." Exchange Street, opposite Central Railroad Depot. Mrs. H. Indevine, Matron.

Cairo, Ill. "SOLDIERS' HOME." C. N. Shipman, Superintendent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

Cincinnati, O. SOLDIERS' HOME." Third Street. Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Cleveland, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Joseph Jerome, Superintendent.

Columbus, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." T. E. Botsford, Superintendent.

Detroit, Michigan. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 81 Jefferson Avenue.

Harrisburg, Pa. Near the Railroad Depot. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." W. H. Hadley, Supt.

Jeffersonville, Indiana. "SOLDIERS' HOME." New Market Street, near the Depot. E. T. Smith, Superintendent.

Louisville, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." V. Scott, Superintendent.

Memphis, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." Near landing, C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Nashville, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Captain I. Brayton, Superintendent.

New Orleans, La. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Corner Magazine and Julia Streets. Sumner Bullard, Superintendent.

New York City. "DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 45 Grove Street, near Blecker. ——, Superintendent.

Paducah, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." E. D. Way, Superintendent.

Portsmouth, Va. "SOLDIERS' HOME." John Alcooke, Superintendent.

Washington, D. C. "THE HOME." No. 374 North Capitol Street. J. B. Clark, Supt.

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[OBJECTS.—To give aid in procuring pay, pensions, bounty, prize money, arrears of pay and bounty, and other claims upon government. To

supply clothing, hospital delicacies, crutches, &c. To give transportation, information, &c.]

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Cincinnati, Ohio. United States Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets.

Cleveland, Ohio. Branch United States Sanitary Commission

Detroit, Mich. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street.

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Memphis, Tenn. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge," near landing. C. W. Christy, Agent.

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New Orleans, La. Special Relief Office, United States Sanitary Commission, No. 96 Julia Street. O. C. Bullard, Agent.

New York City, N. Y. "Special Relief Office," Cooper Union, No. 10 Third Avenue. Mrs. W. P. Griffin, Chairman Special Relief Committee.

Paducah, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." E. D. Way, Agent.

Philadelphia, Pa. United States Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut Street, third story, back. Colonel Soest, Agent.

Portsmouth, Va. Office in "Soldiers' Home." John Alcooke, Agent.

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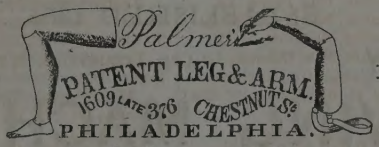

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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